

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 430

By Jackson

A RESOLUTION to commend and congratulate Dickson Fire Department public education officer Julia Holt upon receiving the Fire Education Hero Award.

WHEREAS, the citizens of our State and nation are justly proud of the brave men and women of our local fire departments who respond to fires and other calamities, often putting their lives on the line to preserve life and property; and

WHEREAS, as a part of their duties, fire department personnel engage in public education programs, particularly in the school systems to indoctrinate children on fire safety issues and the proper action to take in case of fires; and

WHEREAS, Julia Holt, public education officer for the Dickson Fire Department, has been teaching fire safety lessons at six elementary schools; last year she was named Tennessee's Fire Educator of the Year by the Tennessee State Fire Marshall's Office in recognition of her excellence as a fire safety instructor; and

WHEREAS, in February 2004, seven-year old Dustin Stephens' clothing ignited when he got too close to a wall heater; Dustin's older brothers, 10-year-old Ryan and 15-year-old Jonathan were present with him that day; and

WHEREAS, Ryan, who had been taught by Mrs. Holt the previous week, and Jonathan pushed Justin to the floor, wrapped him in a blanket to smother the flames, called 911 and put Justin in a tub to cool his burns; responding firefighters said the quick action by his brothers saved Justin's life; and

WHEREAS, because of the effectiveness of Julia Holt's teachings upon one of her students, she was nominated by the Tennessee Fire Marshall's Office for the National Fire Education Hero Award; the Home Safety Council presented Mrs. Holt with the 2005 Safety

Education Hero Award at the annual Congressional Fire Services Institute dinner in Washington, D.C.; and

WHEREAS, U.S. Congressman John Tanner made the presentation, and U.S. Senators Bill Frist and Lamar Alexander applauded Julia Holt's life-saving instruction and expressed pride in her accomplishments in promoting fire safety; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Holt was accompanied to the presentation in Washington, D.C. by her husband, Fairview Police Sergeant Jerone Holt, who is very supportive of her efforts in educating the public on fire safety; and

WHEREAS, the effective instruction in fire safety provided by Julia Holt is worthy of this General Assembly's applause and approbation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we pause in our deliberations to commend and specially honor Dickson Fire Department public education officer Julia Holt for her excellence in teaching fire safety to Tennessee school students, as evidenced by the quick thinking of one of her students to a fire emergency threatening the life of his brother.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we congratulate Julia Holt upon winning the 2005 Safety Education Hero Award at the annual Congressional Fire Services Institute dinner in Washington, D. C., offering her our profound thanks and our best wishes for every success in all her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.